

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (original) A method for the treatment of a cured rubber made of a curable rubber composition comprising a curable organopolysiloxane, a curing agent therefor, and a silica filler having a mean particle size of 0.001 to 10  $\mu\text{m}$ ,

the method comprising the step of post-treating 100 parts by weight of the cured rubber with 0.5 to 30 parts by weight of a hydrolyzable aminosilane or amidosilane having a Si-N bond in vapor form.

2. (original) A method for the treatment of a cured rubber made of a curable rubber composition comprising a curable perfluoropolyether group-containing organosilicon compound, a curing agent therefor, and a silica filler having a mean particle size of 0.001 to 10  $\mu\text{m}$ ,

the method comprising the step of post-treating 100 parts by weight of the cured rubber with 0.5 to 30 parts by weight of a hydrolyzable aminosilane or amidosilane having a Si-N bond in vapor form.

3. (new) The method of claim 1 wherein the post-treating is conducted at a temperature of about 10 to 80°C, for about 1 to 168 hours.

4. (new) The method of claim 2 wherein the post-treating is conducted at a temperature of about 10 to 80°C, for about 1 to 168 hours.

5. (new) The method of claim 1 wherein the post-treating is conducted at a temperature of about 20 to 60°C, for about 24 to 96 hours.

6. (new) The method of claim 2 wherein the post-treating is conducted at a temperature of about 20 to 60°C, for about 24 to 96 hours.

7. (new) The method of claim 1 wherein the step of post-treating employs 100 parts by weight of the cured rubber with 1.0 to 20 parts by weight of a hydrolyzable aminosilane or amidosilane.

8. (new) The method of claim 2 wherein the step of post-treating employs 100 parts by weight of the cured rubber with 01.0 to 20 parts by weight of a hydrolyzable aminosilane or amidosilane.